

NEWS from

DENNIS HANSBERGER

San Bernardino County Supervisor, Third District



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Hansberger Announces Partnership Agreement to Expand Mayor Morris' Operation Phoenix Program to Include Del Rosa County Areas

Third District Supervisor Dennis Hansberger announced today that he is stepping in to help expand San Bernardino Mayor Pat Morris' successful anti-gang, anti-drug, anti-crime and neighborhood revitalization program – Operation Phoenix.

After San Bernardino's murder rate tripled in 7 years, Mayor Morris developed Operation Phoenix, a comprehensive 18-point citywide strategy for combating crime and gangs and revitalizing the city's most crime-besieged 20-block neighborhood in 2006.

Operation Phoenix combines over 30 partner agencies to enforce building codes, curfews, probation, parole, narcotics and truancy laws and in delivering child protection, public health, drug and alcohol and mental health services.

Initial results showed that crimes: murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, theft & grand theft auto; in the initial Operation Phoenix area dropped significantly.

"My office has received concerns from residents of the Del Rosa area that their neighborhood is deteriorating and crime is rising," said Third District Supervisor Dennis Hansberger. "If people don't feel safe in their homes, we all suffer – residents, businesses, visitors, our economy and our neighborhoods," he said.

A survey conducted by California State University, San Bernardino 8-months after the inception of Operation Phoenix showed that residents' perception of their neighborhood as a safe place to live increased from 24.6% to 58.4%. "That's an impressive, dramatic and telling statistic and one we cannot ignore," Hansberger said.

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“Operation Phoenix has proven it is successful. Crime and deterioration of our neighborhoods know no boundaries and now, with this collaborative expansion, our efforts to combat them won’t know boundaries either,” he said.

“I am pleased to partner with Mayor Morris and the City of San Bernardino in this valuable program,” Hansberger said, following the Board of Supervisors’ approval of the \$543,555 proposal; of which \$381,555 will be used to increase Sheriff’s patrols in the area, \$65,000 will be used for additional code enforcement activities, and \$97,000 will be used for youth programs in the Del Rosa area.